(d) whether this has caused any adverse impact on small units; and

(e) if so, the steps taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) 0.6 MMSCMD of natural gas has been allocated to industries in Agra and Ferozabad and 1.4 MMSCMD to the Mathura Refinery.

(b) GAIL has received 1258 applications for gas.

(c) Gas will be supplied on a first comefirst served basis subject to technical feasibility of laying the pipeline and conclusion of the gas supply contract with GAIL.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Disturbance in Northern Grid

3952. SHRI V. PRADEEP DEV : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Committee set up by the Government under the Chairmanship of Member (Grid & Operation), CEA, to analvse causes leading to frequent disturbances in the Northern Grid, has sumitted its report;

(b) if so, the remedial measures suggested by the committee in this regard; and

(c) if not, the time by which the Committee is likely to submit its report ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGAPALACHARI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The remedial measures suggested by the Committee are :

(i) Improving of voltage profile particularly at Dadri/ Panipat/Muradnagar sub-stations by load management, installation of additional shunt capacitors in the Northern Region on a priority basis and reduction of under-voltage relay setting of shunt capacitors banks.

(ii) Preventive maintenance at 400/220 KV switch vards of NTPC including regular hotline washing of insulator discs at these switchyards.

(iii) Timely and properly scheduled maintenance of all the equipments to minimize the incidents of equipment failure.

(iv) Arrangements for monitoring of maintenance activities by an external agency, such as CEA, in various Regions.

(v) Measures have been suggested for enhancement of reliability of Rihand-Dadra HVDC system by modifying the auxiliary power supply arrangements.

(vi) Utilisation of full transformation capacity at Dadri by inter connection of two 220 KV buses at Dadri NCTPS and gas turbine stations.

(vii) Modification and upgradation of protection scheme provided on 400 KV Dadri-Panipat Line at Panipat.

(viii) In order to provide redunancy particularly to 400 KV Dadri–Panipat line and transmission corridor from Anpara/Obra/Singrauli/Rihand complexes to the Western parts of the grid few 400 and 220 KV transmission lines have been identified for expeditious commissioning.

(ix) Revival of full capacity of SVC Stations at Kanpur.

(x) Free governor operation of the thermal units of 200 MW and above and hydro units of 100 MW and above.

(xi) Modification in the islanding scheme of DESU system.

(xii) Reliable black start facilities for Singrauli/Rihand STPPS by providing AC by-pass between 400 KV north and west buses at Vindhyachal HVDC back-to-back stations.

(xiii) The start-up procedures for speedy restoration of Northern Grid have been formalised for gas stations of NTPC. Gas stations at Dadri. BTPS and GT stations of DESU, as well as by augmentation of data telemetry system of NRLDC.

(xiv) Periodic operation system studies to be carried out by NRLDC for the dynamic stability of the system including contingency evaluation.

[Translation]

Metalled Roads

3953. DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is lack of metalled roads in rural areas of Uttar Pradesh particularly in Lalganj Constituency of Azamgarh;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of the total amount provided to the Public Works Department for repairs of roads in rural areas ?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU) : (a) to (c)

The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Inspection of TIFR

3954. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether a committee of foreign experts visited and examined the working of the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR) during the month of February, 1997.

(b) if so, the reasons for permitting the inspection;

(c) the details of the recommendations and suggestions made by the above Committee; and

(d) the details of recommendations adopted by the Government and reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) The Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR), the premier scientific research institution in the fields of physics, Mathematics and allied sciences, is an autonomous institution supported by the Department of Atomic Energy. TIFR completed fifty years of research activities in 1995-96. As a sequel to the TIFR's Golden Jubilee, its Council for Management decided to invite a group of eminent scientists to review TIFR's achievements and make recommendations on, inter alia, international collaboration with other institutions, scope for greater purposeful interaction with industry in selected areas and the steps needed to enable the Institute to attract creative talent in the light of increasing specialisation of research.

A Committee consisting of the following experts visited and reviewed the working of TIFR during 13-18 January 1997

(i) Prof. Lord Porter, OM, FRS, Nobel Laureate, Chairman, Centre for Petromolecular Sciences, Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, Imperial College, London, UK.

(ii) Prof. D. Mumford, Department of Mathematics, Harvard University, USA.

(iii) Prof. Sir Arnold Welfendale, FRS, Department of Physics, University of Durbam Science Laboratories, UK.

(iv) Prof. B.V. Sreekantan, National Institute of Advanced Studies, Indian Institute of Science Campus, Bangalore and Former Director, Tata Institute of Fundamental Research.

Prof. S. Brennex, FRS was prevented by illness from attending as a member of the Committee but gave written evidence.

(c) and (d) The above mentioned Committee has just submitted its report to the Chairman of TIFR's Council of Management. This report is due for consideration by the TIFR's Council of Management at its next meeting to be held in April 1997. It will be possible for the Government to take decisions on the recommendations of the Committee only after TIFR's Council of Management has considered the report, and on matters referred to it.

Oil Exploration

3955. SHRI GORDHANBHAI JAVIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated quantity of resources of oil and natural gas in Gujarat;

(b) the areas in the State where these resources are located; and

(c) the progress made in exploration so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BALLU) : (a) State of Gujarat encompasses onland part of three sedimentary basins viz., Cambay, Kutch and Saurashtra. The prognosticated resources of the onland part of these basins are 2260 MMT of oil + oil equivalent of gas (O+OEG) in the onland.

(b) Resources in Cambay basin are located in the districts of Sabarkantha, Banas Kantha, Mehsana, Ahmedabad, Gandhi Nagar, Kheda, Vadodara, Baruch & Surat.

The resources in Saurashtra are located close to the Coastal areas in the districts of Jamnagar, Junggarh and Bhavnagar and in Kutch basin in Kutch districts.

(c) As on 1.1.97 a total of 225 structures (219 in Cambay, 5 in Kutch and 1 in Saurashtra) have been probed by drilling of which 83 are hydrocarbon bearing and fall in the Cambay basin.

Service Heads Accounts to the Courts

3956. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Supreme Court in its order dated February 13, 1997 dealing with accountability of the